

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Matt Stumbo
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 12:42 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Cc: Sullivan, Noreen; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor
Subject: City Council Item 2: Budget for Complete Streets and Street Safety Improvements

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Mayor Gordo and Pasadena Councilmembers,

I commend you on calling a special meeting to discuss the city budget priorities. I write to encourage you to budget money for complete streets and street safety improvement projects to make Pasadena safer for all modes of transportation.

Pasadena has historically relied on grant funding to fund complete streets projects, and Pasadena DOT has done an excellent job at acquiring grants to fund these projects. Grants, though, are an unreliable source of funding and subject to the priorities of those outside of Pasadena.

Pasadena has made recent great strides in street safety improvements. Nevertheless, more street safety is sorely needed. The recent death of a Pasadena resident on Cordova (11/23) underscores the urgency with which we need to act. By setting aside money in the city budget, Pasadena can make more frequent street safety improvements and work toward achieving zero traffic fatalities by 2035.

Regards,
Matt Stumbo
91104

12/01/2025
Item 2

2. Pasadena City Council Budget Workshop

Conducting a budget workshop is a great step towards better transparency. I hope these discussions incorporate the public's input on financial priorities which include housing, health and general quality of life issues.

For further transparency, City Council should: a. clearly articulate its objectives and priorities and b. provide more information in budget materials that clearly convey to the public what each pocket of money is going towards.

For example, the most recent Police Department proposed operating budget states the department-supported City Council goals simply as "Ensure Public Safety" – what does that even mean? Moreover, buried in a sentence referencing police technology is a brief reference to an "AIC" or Active Intelligence Center. There is no vendor or technology called AIC, rather "AIC" is PPD's pseudonym or code for a Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) - yes, like Peregrine, FlockOS, and Palantir, which are mass surveillance technology platforms. In addition, the City and Police continue to acquire and install batches of license plate readers (ALPR) – without clarity or transparency about the grand plan. How many ALPRs will be enough? When every Pasadena driveway and home has a license plate reader, camera and other surveillance equipment pointing at it? Then there's the problematic issue of the City's reliance on asset forfeiture funds. There is scant information in budget documents about this fund and what it is to be used for.

Pasadena City Council has never held a public discussion about its intent and goals to deploying ever increasing mass surveillance technologies in Pasadena. What is the plan and where does it end?

Is mass surveillance of every person in Pasadena the goal of this City Council and how the Council defines public safety? Where is the opportunity for public input before proceeding to allocate budget line items to mass surveillance?

In 2025, the Public Safety Committee budget hearings were repeatedly rescheduled or cancelled. How will Council improve next year's budget hearing process to provide greater transparency and give the community with opportunity for engagement?

Yadi

Pasadena City Council Special Meeting
December 1, 2025

2. Pasadena Council Budget Workshop

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